

**REMARKS**

Claims 26, 27, 29-35, 41-46 and 51-55 have been allowed and are pending in this application. Claim 56 stands rejected. No claims stand objected to. The Applicants herein amend Claims 31 and 56. Claim 31 contained an obvious typographical error, which the Applicants herein correct by amendment. Claim 31, as amended, finds support at page 9, lines 19-20, and elsewhere in the specification. Claim 56, as amended, finds support in original Claim 3, and in the as-filed specification at page 6, lines 12-16.

As referenced above, the Applicants note that the Examiner issued two virtually identical Office Actions in this application, one dated 08 May 2006, and a second one dated 15 May 2006. The only difference that the Applicants could detect between these two actions appeared in the "Detailed Action" section at the top of page 2 of each action. In the Office Action dated 15 May 2006, the Examiner indicates that, in view of the RCE filed by the Applicants on 03 May 2006, she removed the finality of the previous Office Action dated 06 October 2005.

**CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102 AND § 103**

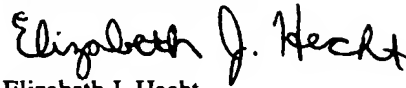
Claim 56 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as allegedly anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly obvious over Rimmelzwaan, *et al.* (*Vaccine* 17: 1355-1358, March 1999). The Examiner indicates that she made this rejection, because Claim 56 recites "adjuvant", and is not limited to the aluminum adjuvants recited in the remaining claims. The Applicants herein amend Claim 56 to incorporate the limitation that the adjuvant is "at least one aluminium salt". Accordingly, the rejection of Claim 56, as amended, under 35 U.S.C. § 102, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103, is moot and should be withdrawn.

The Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication that Claims 26, 27, 29-35, 41-46, and 51-55 are allowable. They enclose herewith an Information Disclosure Statement and a PTO Form 1449 with the requisite fee. The Applicants reserve the right to prosecute, in one or more patent applications, the claims as originally filed, and any other claim that is supported by the instant specification. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any remaining objections or concerns, the Applicants invite her to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the

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below telephone number to resolve such issues and advance the case to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Elizabeth J. Hecht". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "E" and "H".

Elizabeth J. Hecht  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 41,824

GLAXOSMITHKLINE  
Corporate Intellectual Property - UW2220  
P.O. Box 1539  
King of Prussia, PA 19406-0939  
Phone (610) 270-5009  
Facsimile (610) 270-5090  
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